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people see the splendid structures of their forefathers falling into dust and decay in the hands of a few who are able to occupy only a little angle of the edifice.

Crossing the well-known St. Patrick's Bridge, our party embarked on a river steamer for a sail down the Lee to Queenstown. This is one of the most delightful trips in Ireland. The river, broadening as it nears the ocean, flows between gently rising hills with the greenest and richest lawns and meadows of which Ireland can boast. These for the most part belong to a succession of fine residences looking out from noble woods. At frequent intervals picturesque villages and towns rise from the water's edge. Soon the noble harbor of Queenstown is reached. When your correspondent saw it in the early afternoon of an exceedingly bright and warm day, the great sheet of water, shimmering round its islands and breaking in wavelets on the shore, was, indeed, grand. And the beauty of the expanse of water was enhanced by the fine streets and well built houses of Queenstown itself climbing the steep hillside to the foot of the magnificent cathedral which stands sentinel over town and bay. "Magnificent" does nothing more than justice to this edifice which, I believe, has hardly a peer in Ireland, and which for beauty of site can scarcely be matched in the world. As I stood in front of its main entrance, gazed on its noble Gothic proportions and beautiful tracery, and then looked on the amphitheatre-like town beneath, curving round the splendid bay, I would have revelled in the beauty of the scene only for two drawbacks. There, to the south-east, under a steep bluff, was the rent through which the life's blood of the country has been flowing, whilst on the other side lay Spike Island, long used as a prison for political convicts, a sad reminder of the misgovernment of the past, so largely responsible for the sad fates which dim for Irish hearts the beauty of Queenstown.

I am loath to close this letter, the last of my series on Ireland, in a sad "again the government" strain. I gladly admit that conditions in the Green Isle are much improved since my boyhood's days. The present government is very much more in touch with the people than was that of a few years ago. To a large extent under government operation the farmers are now owners of the soil. Landlordism is fast disappearing, and I am happy to say that a spirit of patriotism is beginning to show itself amongst a class of men whose fathers regarded Ireland not as a country to be loved, but as a place to be exploited. Attempts are being made to educate the people on improved methods of fighting the blight, of dairying, of cattle-raising. But these attempts are not in many cases of a practical character. For example a learned professor will be sent down from the Agricultural Board in Dublin to explain to farmers in technical terms the values of various manures, whereas, in order to do any good, stations should be established here and there through the country with plots of land attached, where these values would be practically demonstrated. Any person who has lived in our self-governed Canada for some years and has paid even slight attention to the energy our government has shown in developing home industries and promoting foreign trade, will not be many weeks in Ireland before he wishes that such a government were installed in Dublin. I do not say for a moment that the present Government is not sympathetic, or that the people do not enjoy far more liberty now than in my college days. They do. But the present system is too centralized. The absurdity of supposing that a government which finds itself embroiled in a Bulgarian question, an Austrian question, a Cretan question, can throw its energy into the best methods of fighting the blight or promoting the fishing industries in Ireland, ought to be evident in a short time to anyone less stolid, less fond of having things just as they were, than the average middle-class Englishman. Not only is the system centralized, but it is also to a considerable extent fossilized. An energetic administrator finds himself met at every hand by Boards which have gotten into a certain routine and think that all will go to wreck if the old lines are not adhered to.

Unfortunately this spirit has crept

from the Boards into the people. They have found it useless to pull against the current in the past. They are inclined to drift with it now. The utility of spraying as a remedy against the potato blight has been demonstrated, yet one farmer confessed to me that very many will not adopt this remedy until they are compelled by law to do so. A farmer has an excellent piece of land; but it is going wild for want of cultivation. However, it feeds sufficient cattle to enable him to live, and he troubles himself no farther.

It is very discouraging to those conversant with the strenuousness of the New World to be brought face to face with these conditions. At the same time a little acquaintance with climatic and other phases will moderate the first bursts of indignation. When a person finds himself dodging rain for weeks at a time he is ready to admit that devotion to steady work requires some force of character under these circumstances. And when men have been standing all day under a cold drizzle on a fair green, even the most pronounced enemy of "freewater" will cease to wonder that its consumption is a little larger than he can approve of.

This is not said as an apology for drink or laziness. Your correspondent is glad to say that he saw very little drunkenness outside the cities of Ireland, but he saw ample proof that a considerable amount of drinking is done. He is pointing out climatic and social conditions which tend towards results he deeply deplores. For these conditions the best remedies that occur to him are: 1st, a strong industrial Irish administration which will make a special study of the conditions of soil and climate in Ireland and teach the people the best methods of working the land under these conditions, thus encouraging industries and relieving the present stagnation in centres of population; 2nd, the influx of a number of moneyed and patriotic Americans who would take hold of two or three ambitious young men in every district, and get them to adopt new methods and hustle. Then the rest would soon rub their eyes and wake up, for the average Irishman will not be beaten out of sight by a neighbor, if he can help it. L. MINEHAN.

Death of Capt. William J. McAvoy of St. Catharines.

There passed away into that sleep that knows no awakening, at St. Catharines, on Oct. 2nd, 1908, after a long and painful illness, borne with Christian fortitude, William J. McAvoy, dearly beloved husband of Anna Kimmitt McAvoy, and brother of Mr. Henry McAvoy of Port Dalhousie, Ont., Miss Mary of Kingston, Miss Alfred Eade of Detroit, Mich., Mrs. Benjamin Gregonzo of Buffalo, N.Y., and Mrs. John Collins of Port Dalhousie.

Deceased was born in Port Dalhousie in 1846, and was married to Miss Anna Kimmitt in 1876. Their marriage was blessed with one son, Frank, a bright, talented young man, who succumbed to pneumonia only five months ago. Mr. McAvoy was of a kind and loving disposition, a model husband and affectionate father. Everything that medical skill could do was resorted to in order to prolong his life, but all was in vain. The disease had gone forth for him to leave this uncertain life to enter upon the everlasting one. The esteem in which Mr. McAvoy was held by his neighbors and surrounding community was shown by the numerous spiritual bouquets, floral offerings and the large funeral cortege. He was fortified by all the rites of the Catholic Church, of which he was an exemplary member. He was laid to rest on Monday morning. Rev. Dean Morris chanted Requiem High Mass at St. Catharine's Church, thence to Victoria Lawn Cemetery, mid tears of many friends, his bereft wife, brother and sisters, there to await that awful day when the Angel shall sound the trumpet, "Awake ye dead and come to judgment." On that day we hope he will be placed on the right hand of Him he served so well, while in this life. In peace with all he lived and as he lived in peace with God, so he died. R.I.P.

Look Out For Him

Read this carefully. It may be of use even in Ontario. The warning comes from the American Ecclesiastical Review of July, and indications are that in districts not far from Toronto and perhaps in the city itself the gentlemen in question is now operating.

Priests throughout the country are warned to beware of Mr. F. L. Gaffey, hailing from St. Mary's, Pa., who requests a letter of permission to solicit advertisements for a church guide and directory, promising 25 per cent. of the net proceeds to the church and agreeing to have printed 500 or more copies of a booklet with a page of appropriate reading matter opposite each page of advertisements. The scheme is good, but it is in bad hands, as Gaffey collects all the money he can, gives the rest of the contracts to the printer to collect for his pay, and goes away and forgets to return. He has been at work in many dioceses.

OTTAWA NOTES

(From our own correspondent.)

The feast of St. Francis was appropriately celebrated in St. Francis' Church by special services, at which the members of the Capuchin Order, under whose direction the church is conducted, were in attendance. A sermon on the life of the Saint was delivered by Rev. Father Gavary of Ottawa University. All the services were largely attended.

The Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary was celebrated in St. Jean Baptiste Church with due solemnity. Solemn High Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Marion, O.P., special music being rendered by the choir. Rev. Father Granger, O.P., delivered an eloquent sermon. In the afternoon a procession was held of all the various societies in the parish, a sermon on the Devotions of the Rosary being preached by Rev. Father Jacques, O.P. This was concluded by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

The semi-annual Conference of parish priests of the Ottawa Diocese was held during last week at Richmond, when papers on Moral Theology and other religious subjects were read and discussed. Among those present were Rev. Canon Corkery of Pakenham; Rev. Canon Sloan, St. Bridget's church, Ottawa; Rev. Father McAuley, West Osgoode; Rev. Father Fay, South March; Rev. Father Cavanagh, Corkery; Rev. Father Fitzgerald, St. Mary's church, Bayswater; Rev. Father Harbin, Almonte; Rev. Father Foley, Falloufield, and Rev. Father Brownrigg of Richmond.

Rev. Sister St. Gabrielle of Jesus, Mother Superior of the Immaculate Conception Community at Manitowick, Que., passed away recently after a brief illness. Sister St. Gabrielle, whose maiden name was Marie Chevrier, was a native of France and came to Canada about a year ago. She was twenty-seven years of age and had worked energetically towards the establishment of the community since it emigrated to this country two years ago. Rev. Father Guay, assisted by Rev. Father Roux, officiated at the funeral ceremony.

A former prominent member of the Basilica choir has passed away in the person of Mr. F. X. Breton, who had acquired more than local notice as a vocalist. He was fifty-six years of age and occupied the position of clerk of works in the Public Works Department of the Dominion Government. For some time deceased was a director of Les Artisans Society and was also a member of the Catholic Order of Foresters, to both of which he had become quite popular. The funeral, which was held to the Basilica, was largely attended by his many friends.

As a result of a suggestion made by Rev. Father Sherry of Ottawa University, at the recent biennial convention of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in the County of Carleton, it is likely that all, or nearly all, of the Catholic Societies in this city will be united in a federation for mutual benefits. The proposal met with considerable approval and the suggestion will be considered in detail at a meeting to be held shortly. The reports presented at the convention were pronounced satisfactory, and the election of officers for the ensuing two years followed. They are: President, Ex-Ald. J. G. Kilt; vice-president, Thos. Smith; secretary, W. G. Teaffe; treasurer, Wm. Burke; financial secretary, G. A. T. Crowie. Rev. Father Sherry was elected county chaplain in succession to Very Rev. Canon Sloan, who retired.

Quarterly Meeting of the Children's Aid Society

The second quarterly meeting of the Board of Management of the St. Vincent de Paul Children's Aid Society of Toronto was held in Saint Vincent's Hall at 8 p.m. on Monday. Those present were the President, Matthew O'Connor, the Rev. J. L. Haad, P. Elmsley, M. J. Hanes, D. Miller, J. J. Hanratty, L. J. Cosgrove, Messrs. Lee, Hynes, Ford, Mr. Hynes, Miss Macdonnell and others.

He then went into a detailed statement of the workings of the Society, which was very instructive and interesting.

The Agent's report showed that during the term 107 cases had been brought to the notice of the Society, affecting the interests of 134 children. Of these 76 were from the Children's Court and 31 were private cases. Number of visits made to Court, 560. There are at present in the shelter of the Society 3 boys and 5 girls, ranging from 3 to 19 years. The Treasurer's report showed very favorable conditions.

M. J. Haney and the Rev. Father Hand complimented the officers for their effective work. The Rev. Father Hand and the Agent lauded the St. John's Industrial School on good work done by it, the Agent stating that it would be impossible to control our wardward, had boys without its restraining powers.

A Jewish Convert

Rabbi Dr. Solomon, a convert, is giving a mission to Jews in Pittsburgh with the approval of Bishop Canevin. Rabbi Solomon, who has become a member of the Pittsburgh Apostolate, conducts his meetings in the open air, when the weather permits.

SUBJECT OF THE HOUR

(Continued from page 1.)

land. He meant Father Lacombe, who reached the Red river as long ago as 1849. There was another man whose name he could not forbear to mention, a man who had been a leader of leaders, a missionary of missionaries, Alexander Antonin Tache. It was a special pleasure to him to speak of Archbishop Tache in that Cathedral. He had known Archbishop Tache well and his friendship with him had been one of the joys of his sacerdotal life. It was, said the preacher, in the summer of 1852 that he had first set eyes on Bishop Tache. That had been in the Cathedral of St. Paul and Bishop Tache had been returning from Marseilles, where he had been consecrated Bishop. At that time Tache was a handsome youth of 29 years of age, but he would ever remember his dignity of manner and his nobility of character. At that time he himself was, said the Archbishop, a priest in the Cathedral of St. Paul. Let him tell them that it would always be a joy for the diocese of St. Paul to have been linked together with the heroes of the Northwest.

TRIBUTE TO FRENCH MISSIONS.

During his discourse the Archbishop paid an eloquent tribute to France. France had been above all other lands the nation to come forth and carry the message of Christianity into all the ends of the earth. When one spoke of the missionary work of the Church one spoke of France. Not only of France on the banks of the Seine and the Rhone, but of France on the banks of the great river which bore to the ocean the waters of the great American lakes. The great characteristic of the French nation was generosity. Linked with France for right or wrong, alas, it was sometimes wrong, one went far. Three-fourths of the missionaries in Catholic lands to-day were children of France. The Society for the Propagation of the Faith received more than half its contributions from France alone. France, the fairest, eldest daughter of the Church, excelled in generosity the whole of the rest of the world. As one travelled over the wilds of the Northwest one heard everywhere names of pioneers redolent of the soil of France. The missionary and the voyageur went hand in hand in the early days of settlement. La Verandrye was told by the government of France to build a fort with a house for the priest. Montreal and Quebec received the command to send abroad the word of Christ. He congratulated heartily Archbishop Langevin on his successful search for the bones of the martyred Father Aulneau and on having brought them to his episcopal seat. Those remains would form a link between the past and the present. They would recall lessons of which happily the French Canadians might well be proud.

Archbishop Ireland concluded his long and brilliant sermon with a fervent appreciation of the missionaries and sisters of the Oblate Order, whose work would always remain a powerful factor in the Canadian West. Of Archbishop Tache he would like to add that during his lifetime he had known a dozen men, perhaps not a dozen men, superior to their fellows, and one of those men was

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